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REMARKS

Claims 1-9, 11 and 12 are pending is this application. Claim 10 previously was canceled. Applicants amend claims 1, 6-9 and 12. Applicants introduce new claims 13-16. Accordingly, after entry of this Amendment, claims 1-9 and 11-16 will be pending for further substantive examination.

Applicants amend claim 1 to clarify the catalyst system and to present it in product-by-process format with the reduction of chromium within a defined temperature range. Support for the amendments to claim 1 is found in the application as filed at least at page 6, lines 11-12.

Applicants amend claims 6 and 7 to correct their antecedent basis based on amended claim 1.

Claims 8 and 9 are amended to clarify the percent by weight basis. Support for the amendments to claims 8 and 9 is found in the application as filed at least at page 5, lines 31-35.

Claim 12 is amended to correct a typographical error.

New claims 13-16 introduce limitations related to the temperature range for the reduction of chromium and to the use of carbon monoxide as a reducing agent. Support for new claims 13-16 is found in the application as filed at least at page 6, lines 8-12.

Applicants submit that no new matter is introduced by the above claim amendments and new claims.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney with any questions regarding this paper. Applicants respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Date: September 17, 2003

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Respectfully submitted,

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